Statements on the ABC / Control Unit Conference in NYC

August 12-14, 1994

7-26-94 / Moncada Day

Dear Friends,

I wish you success in your conference. From where I sit, it seems that anarchist groups around the country and in Canada are keeping resistance going on. That gives me strength and hope. Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War need your support.

Recently the F.B.I. took out a huge add on page four of the Washington Post, attacking Leonard Peltier on the day before a demonstration demanding his freedom arrived in D.C. Leonard is one of the most widely known Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War known in the United States, yet the Washington Post still refers to him as a killer.

There is a lot of work and education to be done. I hope your conference helps move it all forward!

¡Venceremos!

Laura Whitehorn
Revolutionary Anti-Imperialist Political Prisoner
Marianna, Florida

6-27-94

It is my hope that the ABC conference will achieve better communication efforts with the national and international anarchist collectives to establish a cohesive anarchist global network which recognizes no national boundaries. Foreign anarchist contacts should be aggressively cultivated with dialogues opened to these groups, as only the players' faces change from country to country, but the impact of capitalism on the working class remains the same worldwide to differing degrees.

On a localized level, the anarchist community should engage in intensified efforts to educate the general populous, most particularly the blue collar working class, concerning the three principles of anarchy, no government gang, no god gang, and no exchange-value. In order to neutralize massive pro-government misinformation propaganda about the anarchist style of life, anarchists should rally around working class issues, make themselves and their beliefs visual to a higher degree. Anarchists should make more efforts to actively support those engaged in the anti-racist struggle on a national level, which provides an excellent opportunity to introduce others to anarchy. Most predominantly blue collar communities usually have has a specific need that is not being addressed or provided by the government and religion gangs, so working class communities' need should be carefully evaluated to see if a local anarchist collective can be of assistance with perhaps a low cost day-care center, inexpensive veggie cafe, soup kitchens, whatever is needed will serve to attract working class people to anarchists where they can receive exposure to the anarchist lifestyle and literature to expand minds to possibilities never encountered within larger mainstream societies.

Prisoner support should be of paramount importance as gulags, state and federal prisons, for the past couple of decades have been fertile recruiting grounds for the kkklods, the aryan scum, the nazi trash, the Revolutionary Communist Party cretins, white supremist inferiors, and all manner of racists, gay bashing, garbage dedicated to keeping the working class divided along racial and ethnic lines fighting each other and thus successfully preventing a unified working class force with the potential to challenge capital's might and break it. Most people in prison at some point in time seek to fully gain an understanding of politics, gravitate toward non-mainstream political movements attempting to achieve a focused political direction. The prisons have proved ripe for recruitment by the hate mongers as the left has largely ignored prisons except to spotlight a very few prisoners' cases or circumstances with the exception of anti-death penalty groups. Most

prisoners have never seen anarchist literature, do not know what anarchy indeed is other than vague echos of disinformation they have heard or been taught and a powerful potential for the overall anarchist struggle is thus wasted and ignored. Potential anarchists, or at least potential allies to the anarchist cause, are being deliberately bypassed for the most part by the anarchist movement. A point of fact, well worth noting by all who embrace anarchy, is that any individual living the true lifestyle of anarchy has excellent chances to become a resident, an inmate, a prison number, within the gulags at almost any given time with the current political climate in this nation. Those around who witnessed the '60's and '70's era of COINTELPRO running rampant clearly know that "Big Brother" is indeed watching through his agents of oppression.

Imprisoned anarchists, also social prisoners who become politicized while within the gulags, face harassment, often brutality, & sometimes death, because they dare stand strong for their political beliefs in the face of "The Man." They desperately need outside support from the anarchist community. Often they are subjected, or experience, years locked away in steel & concrete tomb-like segregation cells in an effort to neutralize the influence they might have on other prisoners' political educations & revolutionary political growth. Anarchists and those possessing leftist radical politics are segregated, isolated, their voices stifled, & all the while the far right's hate mongers roam freely throughout the gulag system teaching and preaching hate, channeling misdirected frustration & anger destructively to their sick, sorry cause's benefit and goals.

Persons with the courage enough to become "Jailhouse lawyers" are an officially recognized threat to the facade of authority of the entire judicial and gulag system. They strive to see justice done for the working class unfortunates imprisoned when there is no court appointed attorney or lawyer available to aid these people with their court matters, appellate issues etc. "Jailhouse lawyers" are regularly, routinely, and intensely harassed within the gulags. They are frequently segregated and often victims of every scheme of repression the gulags have to offer. These men and women need, and merit outside anarchist support. It is a recognized fact most prisoners are curios about the various political movements, especially as they start to search for logical answers to the "why" of their circumstances. they reach out from within prison confines to contact those who might provide realistic answers. They often make an effort to contact outside political organizations for literature. These requests for literature and information are often ignored unfortunately. After a few attempts resulting in being

completely ignored, the prisoner gives up the effort altogether or loses interest. They will then gravitate toward the more visual right wing influences within their immediate prison environment.

The original ABC was formed in Russia to aid anarchist prisoners quite a few years ago and should be refocused to regain the direction it has lost for the most part in this era if we are ever to become the force we proclaim to be... a force to be reckoned with by capital!

These are just a few of my thoughts for what they are worth as requested. I wish this ABC Conference to be the best, most productive one to date and send my heartfelt revolutionary greetings to all that have attended it. They will never get us all!

In Struggle and Solid@rity,

Harold H. Thompson
Anarchist Prisoner
Henning, Tennessee

5-31-94

Greetings From the Syphilitic Rectum of the Beast,

With the rising industrialation of prisons and prison industry there is a greater need than ever for the ABC. Prisons have become the US's leading industry, providing jobs for millions of people directly, or through servicing agencies. The US leads the nation on the number of people imprisoned, and Ohio leads the US on overcrowded conditions.

Here at Lucasville, political trials for brothers involved in the 11 day siege are being railroaded through the courts. This is election year and the judicial bodies have been doing their masters bidding by indicting and trying prisoners at breakneck speed, some without even the benefit of the time to put up a defense.

Outside support for these brothers is almost non-existent. Attorney's have been appointed by the courts and paid next to nothing, while the state has expended millions for salaries of special prosecutors to bring the men to trial. No riot charges have been issued so as to avoid any defense raising conditions of the prison as a defense. All charges have been narrowly focused on assault and kidnap. Several murder indictments have just come out for prisoners, but not the guards who died.

There is a rising need for active ABC involvement in the US. With all other movements directing their activities toward select nationals, the ABC must work harder to cross all boarders and organize and network coalitions to help those of us imprisoned in the prison struggle. <u>Not</u> supported by formal defense committees or groups. There is a need to establish an Emergency Response Network to deal with emergency situations, such as transfers, beatings and other emergencies. There is a need to establish contact with movement and civil rights attorneys near each District Court to assist in litigating prisoners rights violations, as well as raise funds for the same, and for the families of those imprisoned.

Most importantly, there is a dire need to establish political discussion groups, or one on one correspondence to educate prisoners. Education brings empowerment.

Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervins Draft Proposal for an ABC Network covers the issues. All that is necessary are those willing, able and committed enough to implement the proposal. We must work toward long term goals.

I, for one am encouraged by the rising ABC groups here, and the support they have been giving prisoners. But we are too far apart and few. We need to recruit so there is an ABC group in every major city, as

well as coordinate our efforts. Hopefully this will happen at this conference.

Lastly, I hope one day we will all be together in a world without boarders and a world with out prisons.

Love and Solidarity,

John Perotti
Lucasville, Ohio

The following statement was sent in on behalf of Leonard Peltier and the Leonard Peltier Defence Committee:

8-10-94

Greetings and Solidarity:

I would like to begin by apologizing for the fact that this statement could not have been given in person by someone at the Defense Committee. We are staffed by four people here, and two of them are tabling at Woodstock, and the other two must stay at the office in Kansas. But our strength is with you all, and our hopes that something worth while will come out of the conference.

Leonard Peltier has been in jail for 18 years for a crime he did not commit. He is in jail because he was and is willing to defend his people against this government. Two FBI agents were killed on June 26th 1975 as well as a Native American, Joe Stuntz on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. The biggest FBI manhunt in history was waged to find the killers of the agents, but to this day, no justice has been done for the death of Joe Stuntz.

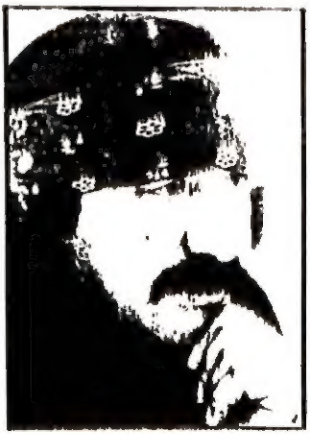
The government thinks they had enough evidence to put Leonard away for life. ***But the fact is that there is enough evidence around the***

world to put this government away for life! Leonards case is one of many. He is a symbol of the oppression that has been dealt to Native and Indigenous peoples everywhere by their governments. He is also a symbol of resistance, and an undying pledge to his people that he will fight for justice until the day he dies.

Right now, Leonard's chance for freedom is Executive Clemency. This would mean that Clinton would have to agree with all of the conscious minded folks around the world that Leonard is indeed innocent, and that the government made a mistake, and that Leonard deserves his freedom. Leonard believes he may have a chance, but he's not going to leave his only hope there. It is up to all of YOU to bring freedom to Leonard. It is up to the people themselves to serve their own verdict and see that this man, and all other political prisoners be set free. It is the work that is hopefully implemented and accomplished at conferences like these that will pave the road to freedom for Leonard and others, and eventually freedom for all of us. We are all in jail, in a sense. This system we live in is one big prison cell that's got to be busted wide open. We begin with the brothers and sisters behind bars and from there we can get some real changes going.

I have enclosed some literature with this statement that can hopefully be passed out or put on a table somewhere at this conference. Really take the time to check out the facts on Leonards case. This is a perfect example of how the government and the FBI work to silence some of history's greatest fighters. We can not let them continue in their quest to dismantle our resistance. They've tried to do it to the American Indian Movement, to the Panthers, to the Young Lords, to Mumia Abu-Jamal, to Ramona Africa and the MOVE organization, to all of us. We must remain defiant and ready to fight if justice is ever to be done. After 18 years, Leonard has not given up. I hope all of you wont ever give up either.

In the Spirit of Crazy Horse,
Abby Wohl
Leonard Peltier Defense Committee



4-24-94

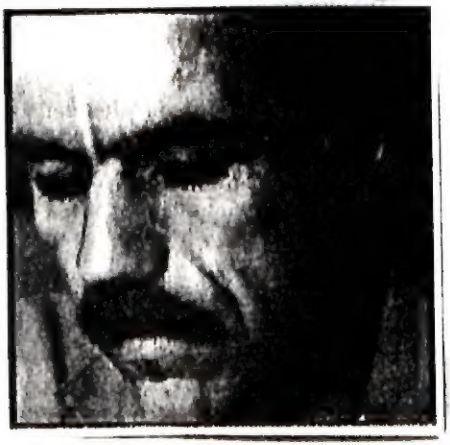
Greetings,

About the August conference in NY, The ABC proposal (by Lorenzo Kom'boa Ervin) for a prison support network is as solid as are many of Kom'boa's ideas for a "movement." But bear in mind that proposals are the easiest part of the process.

There's nothing particularly new in these proposals but unless there are people organized to do the work than it wont advance much beyond the drawing board. It always comes down to people doing work and connecting their work to ongoing struggles.

Solidarity,

Ray Luc Levasseur
Marion, Illinoise



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